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**Statement by Stuart Hoare, brother of Sean Hoare,  
to the Leveson Inquiry.**

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1. My name is Stuart Calvin John Hoare and I am the brother of the late Sean Matthew Hoare. I would firstly like to thank the inquiry for giving me the opportunity to speak on my brothers behalf.
2. I had a very close relationship with Sean for 48 years. We spoke almost everyday. I am making this statement based on information and details given to me by Sean. I have agreed to provide evidence to the Inquiry because I feel that it is my duty and my promise to my younger brother to uphold his name and finally prove that everything that Sean said was the whole truth. Sean did everything he was asked in the name of 'journalism', was applauded for it and then 'every door shut in his face'. His character then pulled apart. Sean was never allowed to re-enter the journalistic world that he lived for.
3. What has never been reported was the fact that Sean came from a very stable, close, loving and private family that had beliefs and focussed on hard work and education.
4. Sean completed his 'A' levels between 1982 and 1984 and went on to London University (Queen Mary's) to study Modern History. He gained a BA Honours degree.
5. After leaving University he enrolled at the Westminster Press Training School where he completed a six month course where amongst other subjects he studied law, local government and short hand. This was followed by two years as a junior reporter at the Watford Observer where he shifted at the weekends for the News of the World to learn to operate at national newspaper level and gain experience.
6. In 1990 he started 'shifting' at The Sun newspaper where he first met Andrew Coulson and eventually worked for him as Deputy

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Editor for the Bizarre team. During his time at the Sun he broke a series of exclusive stories as well as being involved with covering the death of Princess Diana and politics both nationally and internationally.

7. During Sean's journalistic career and before finally settling at the News of the World, Sean also worked for the Sunday Mirror and the Sunday People. Within this period of time Sean made many solid friendships and professional relationships throughout the industry and ended his career at the News of the World. His journalistic skills were not just restricted to showbiz. He also covered hard news stories including The Gulf Wars, September 11<sup>th</sup> Bombing and the Afghan Conflict. He also had the role of training graduate journalists in writing skills and news gathering which he enjoyed.
8. In 2005, Sean left the News of the World and after unsuccessfully trying to re-enter the old world that he knew, he decided to become a freelance reporter. He worked with Channel 5 on a series of shows about the demise of Radio 1. He supplied articles for magazines and newspapers on numerous stars.
9. During Sean's career, alcohol was always an accepted part of the job, many a relationship/meeting made over a drink, no matter what time of day. Sean was very easily led into the culture of drinking whilst working and there is no getting away from the fact that Sean, during his career, drank far too much and certainly used it as a tool to deal with the stress and demand that he was under. I recently attended a Coroner's inquiry where I got great comfort in listening to the summing up of my brothers life with an honest, sensitive and intelligent coroner. In Coroner Edward Thomas words 'Hoare had done "extremely well" in abstaining from alcohol, and did not drink for a year after being diagnosed with liver disease. But in December last year he began drinking again as he became caught up in the phone-hacking scandal'.

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10. Sean's character was very different from my own, although we had the same upbringing. I choose the route of sport and numbers whilst Sean loved the written word and was very happy deep in debate on any given subject as long as he was surrounded by his close friends. Sean had a very romantic view of the world and everyone in it. Sean had very strong socialist beliefs and the basis of these beliefs formed the framework which made Sean the person that he was. Sean was a proper old school journalist, described by many as one of the most charismatic people you could ever meet. It is fair to say that Sean loved his job and lived for journalism.
11. Sean, in early 2010, was in an ideal position to blow the whistle on phone hacking as he had been completely sober for the last twelve months and was now self employed.
12. Sean's decision to go public certainly wasn't motivated by money as he did not get a single penny for any of the articles written in the New York Times. His sole motivation was based on trying to put wrongs right. Sean had worked with certain individuals at both the Sun and News International where phone hacking was a daily routine [redacted] I know this to be the case because Sean and I regularly discussed this and there are emails in existence which support Sean's description of a practice referred to during such meetings as 'the dark side'. It wasn't until a close colleague was jailed and hung out to dry that Sean realised that this individual was being used as a scapegoat to protect the Management. I can't stress strongly enough how upset Sean was over this injustice. The reality was that phone hacking was endemic within the News International group (specifically Sean identified that this process was initiated at the Sun and later transferred to the News of the World) and he went on record both verbally and in writing to make this claim.

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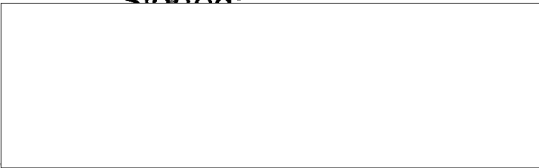
13. As reported in most red tops Sean was released from his contract with the News of the World in 2005 but unreported was that he was paid a sum of money to go.
14. He had a wide and loyal circle of friends who will miss him but his real legacy should be the courage and conviction he showed in speaking out about the News International phone hacking scandal.
15. Undoubtedly, one of the major issues during Sean's employment with the News of the World was that the News desk was out of control and that stories were obtained with very little or no ethics because of the pressure put on journalists to deliver. There were also monetary rewards that motivated some individuals to fabricate and embellish stories that would sell newspapers.
16. Sean's death has been a massive shock to a very close family. Obviously, his widow is devastated and a mother and father in their late 70's did not expect to bury their child. From my own perspective, I feel a massive loss and as Sean's older brother feel that it is my duty to look after him now that he is dead, just as I did when he was alive. Sean has a 16 year old nephew who idolised him and cannot believe his uncle is not around anymore for 'their deep and meaningful chats'!

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17. I would like to make the point that although I have been asked not to name names, it has been incredibly difficult to structure this statement without doing so. But those involved know who they are and what they have done.

The contents of this statement are true and accurate to the best of my belief and knowledge.

Signed:



Dated:

13.12.2011